

SECTION III—REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed June 4, 2003. Claim 11 is canceled and claims 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 18 are amended as shown above to more clearly recite features of the claimed invention. Claims 10 and 12-18 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 10-18 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 6,401,919 to Griffis et al ("Griffis"). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element, as set forth in the claim, is found in a single prior-art reference. MPEP § 2131; *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). As further explained below, Griffis cannot anticipate these claims because it does not disclose every element and limitation recited therein.

Claim 10, as amended, recites a method including "reading a unique identifier stored on a component," "printing the unique identifier read from the component onto first and second labels," and "affixing the first and second labels to a component container into which the component is inserted." Griffis discloses a package 100 having a compartment within which a computer-readable medium such as a floppy disk or compact disk is inserted. The compartment is closed with a flap, and the flap can be sealed with a label 116 having information associated with the contents of the compartment. Griffis, however, does not disclose, teach or suggest that the computer-readable medium is itself the source of the information printed on the label 116 or any other label placed on the package 100, and thus does not disclose, teach or suggest a method including "printing the unique identifier read from the component onto first and second labels." Applicant thus submits that Griffis cannot anticipate claim 10 and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claims 12-18, if an independent claim is allowable, then any claim depending therefrom is also allowable. MPEP § 2143.03; *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988). As discussed above, claim 10 is in condition for allowance. Applicant thus submits that claims 12-18 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on allowable claim 10 and by virtue of the

features recited therein. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of these claims.

Conclusion

Given the above amendments and accompanying remarks, independent claim 10 is now in condition for allowance. The dependent claims that depend directly or indirectly on these independent claims are likewise allowable based on at least the same reasons and based on the recitations contained in each dependent claim.

If the undersigned attorney has overlooked a teaching in any of the cited references that is relevant to allowance of the claims, the Examiner is requested to specifically point out where such teaching may be found. Further, if there are any informalities or questions that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 292-8600.


Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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